Unemployment rate in the Worldwide 1991-2024

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The global unemployment rate has fluctuated between 1991 and 2024, but overall, it has remained relatively stable. In 2024, the global unemployment rate was approximately 4.89%. This is a slight decrease from the previous year and follows an overall downward trend from the 1990s, though not always in a straight line.

Here's a more detailed look:

1991: The unemployment rate was higher in the early 1990s. Data from Statista shows a figure of 6.6% in 1991.

Recent Years:

The global unemployment rate has generally been below 7% since 2010, with some fluctuations due to economic events.

2024: The unemployment rate for 2024 was reported at 4.89%, according to Statista.

Number of Unemployed:

In 2024, the total number of unemployed persons worldwide was estimated to be around 210.94 million.

While the overall unemployment rate has been relatively stable, it's worth noting that youth unemployment remains a significant concern, often

exceeding the overall rate by a significant margin. For example, in 2024, youth unemployment rates were significantly higher than the overall rate, with young men and women facing rates of 12.4% and 12.3% respectively according to the International Labour Organization.

*** The impact of corruption on the high unemployment rate:**

Corruption can significantly contribute to high unemployment rates by undermining economic growth, discouraging investment, and misallocating resources. It creates an environment of instability, reduces trust in institutions, and can lead to a less competitive and productive economy, all of which negatively impact job creation.

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

1. Disincentivizes Investment and Economic Growth:

Reduced Foreign Direct Investment (FDI):

Corruption scares away both foreign and domestic investors, who are hesitant to invest in countries with high levels of corruption due to the increased risk and uncertainty.

Misallocation of Resources:

Corrupt practices divert public funds away from productive investments like infrastructure and education, which are crucial for long-term economic growth and job creation.

Weakened Institutions:

Corruption erodes the rule of law and weakens institutions, making it harder to enforce contracts, protect property rights, and ensure fair competition, all of which are vital for a healthy economy.

Reduced Competitiveness:

Corruption distorts markets, making it more difficult for businesses to compete on a level playing field. This can stifle innovation and entrepreneurship, hindering the creation of new jobs.

2. Impacts on Specific Groups:

Youth Unemployment:

Corruption is particularly detrimental to young people, who may face difficulties securing jobs due to bribery, lack of transparency in hiring processes, and limited opportunities in a poorly performing economy.

Poorest Members of Society:

The poorest and most marginalized members of society are often disproportionately affected by

corruption, as they lack the connections or resources to navigate corrupt systems and compete for jobs.

3. Examples of Negative Impacts:

Decreased Business Opportunities:

Corruption can discourage businesses from investing in a country, leading to fewer job opportunities.

Inefficient Resource Allocation:

Corruption can lead to the misallocation of resources, where projects are prioritized based on personal gain rather than economic viability.

Reduced Quality of Education:

Corruption in the education sector can lead to lower-quality education, making it harder for graduates to find employment.

4. Addressing the Problem:

Strengthening Institutions:

Strengthening anti-corruption agencies, improving transparency, and promoting the rule of law are crucial steps in combating corruption.

Promoting Good Governance:

Implementing policies that promote good governance, accountability, and transparency can help create a more stable and predictable

environment for businesses and investors.
Investing in Education and Skills Development:
Investing in education and skills development can help individuals acquire the skills needed to compete in the job market.

Combating Bribery:

Implementing measures to combat bribery and ensure fair hiring practices can help create a more level playing field for job seekers.

In conclusion, corruption is a significant barrier to job creation and economic growth, and effectively tackling corruption is essential for reducing unemployment and fostering a more equitable and prosperous society.

*** What are the causes of unemployment?**

Unemployment, the state of being without a job despite actively seeking one, can stem from a variety of causes, both on the demand and supply side of the labor market. Demand-side factors include economic downturns like recessions, which lead to reduced business activity and job losses, and also factors like high interest rates, which make borrowing more expensive and can slow down hiring. Supply-side factors include frictional

unemployment, where people are between jobs, and structural unemployment, caused by a mismatch between available jobs and workers' skills or geographical location.

Here's a more detailed breakdown:

Demand-Side Factors:

Recessions and Economic Slowdowns:

During economic downturns, businesses often reduce production and services, leading to layoffs and hiring freezes.

High Interest Rates:

High interest rates can make it more expensive for businesses to borrow money for expansion and hiring, thus impacting job creation.

Global Competition:

Increased competition from companies in countries with lower labor costs can lead to job losses in high-wage countries, especially in manufacturing.

Declining Consumer Demand:

Changes in consumer preferences or a decrease in overall spending can reduce demand for certain goods and services, leading to job losses in related industries.

Supply-Side Factors:

Frictional Unemployment:

This type of unemployment is temporary and occurs when people are between jobs, such as when they are transitioning from one job to another or re-entering the workforce.

Structural Unemployment:

This occurs when there is a mismatch between the skills of the available workforce and the skills required for the jobs available, or when jobs move to different locations.

Skill Mismatches:

Technological advancements, globalization, and other changes can make certain skills obsolete, leaving workers with outdated qualifications unemployed.

Geographical Mismatches:

Workers may not be located in the same area as available jobs, creating a barrier to employment.

Lack of Education and Training:

Insufficient education and training can limit access to jobs requiring specific skills.

Other Factors:

Technological Advancements:

Automation and artificial intelligence can replace

human labor in certain jobs, leading to job displacement.

Globalization:

Outsourcing of jobs to countries with lower labor costs can lead to job losses in higher-wage countries.

Government Policies:

Policies such as high minimum wages or excessive regulations can sometimes increase the cost of hiring and potentially lead to job losses, according to Unstop.

Demographic Changes:

An influx of young people entering the workforce can strain the job market if there are not enough new job opportunities.

Discrimination and Bias:

Discrimination based on factors like race, gender, or age can create barriers to employment.

*** Corruption in Palestine:**

Corruption in Palestine encompasses various forms of abuse of public power and resources for personal gain, including nepotism, conflict of interest, and misuse of public funds. While bribery is perceived as less frequent, favouritism and nepotism are

widely reported as common practices. The issue is prevalent in both governmental and non-governmental institutions.

Forms of Corruption in Palestine:

Nepotism and Favouritism:

Wasta (favouritism) and nepotism are widely reported in public sector appointments and decision-making.

Conflict of Interest:

A significant number of respondents perceive conflict of interest as a form of corruption within the public sector.

Misuse of Public Resources:

There are reports of unauthorized personal use of public resources and large-scale corruption, such as stealing money and public property.

Bribery:

While reported less frequently than other forms, bribery is still present.

Anti-Corruption Efforts:

Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission (PACC): Established to combat corruption and promote integrity.

AMAN Coalition: The Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (Transparency International's national

chapter in Palestine) actively works against corruption.

Focus on Transparency and Accountability: Efforts are underway to improve transparency in public services and promote accountability among officials.

Challenges:

Persistence of Corrupt Practices:

Despite efforts to combat corruption, certain practices like nepotism and favouritism remain ingrained in the system.

Public Perception of Corruption:

Surveys indicate that a significant portion of the population perceives corruption to be widespread, highlighting the need for continued efforts to address public concerns.

Impact of Conflict:

The ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict and its associated challenges further complicate efforts to combat corruption and promote good governance.

*** Feudalism and nepotism:**

Feudalism and nepotism, while not identical, are systems that can be interconnected through power structures and social hierarchies. Feudalism, a

historical system of social and political organization, often involved hereditary rule and land ownership, creating a structure where power was concentrated within a few families. Nepotism, the practice of favoring relatives in appointments and promotions, can arise within such a system as a way to reinforce family control and maintain the existing power structure.

Here's a more detailed look:

Feudalism:

Hierarchical Structure:

Feudalism is characterized by a rigid social hierarchy, typically with a monarch at the top, followed by nobles, knights, and peasants.

Land Ownership:

Land ownership was a key element, with nobles controlling vast territories and granting land to vassals in exchange for loyalty and service.

Hereditary Succession:

Power and titles were often passed down through families, reinforcing the idea of inherited privilege and social status.

Nepotism:

Favoritism towards Relatives:

Nepotism involves showing preferential treatment

to family members, particularly in hiring, promotions, or granting other opportunities.

Undermines Meritocracy:

Nepotism can undermine fair competition and merit-based systems by prioritizing family ties over qualifications and abilities.

Can be seen as a form of corruption:

In some contexts, nepotism is considered a form of corruption, as it involves the abuse of power for personal gain or the benefit of one's family.

Connection:

Feudalism and Nepotism in History:

In feudal societies, the nobility often engaged in nepotism to consolidate their power and ensure the continuation of their lineage within the existing feudal structure.

Example:

A king might appoint his son as a high-ranking official or grant land to a relative, even if others were more qualified, demonstrating nepotism within the feudal framework.

Modern Relevance:

While feudalism as a system has largely disappeared, the practice of nepotism can still be found in various contexts, including politics,

business, and even entertainment.
In essence, feudalism's hierarchical structure and hereditary succession can create an environment where nepotism becomes a way to maintain and strengthen family control and influence.

*** Feudalism in Palestine:**
particularly during the Ottoman era, involved a complex system of land ownership and social hierarchies. While not a perfect match for the European feudal model, certain aspects of land tenure and social relationships shared similarities with feudal systems. Key features included the musha'a system of communal peasant landownership and the rise of feudal estates where lords controlled land and exploited peasants.
Key Features of Feudalism in Palestine:
Musha'a (Communal Land):
This system, a heritage from the Middle Ages, involved collective ownership of land by peasant communities.
Feudal Estates:
Lords (often tax farmers or officials) gained control over large estates, particularly during the 19th century, turning peasants into tenants.

Exploitation of Peasants:
Peasants were often burdened with debt and forced to work the land for the lords, sometimes through coercion and manipulation of laws.
Social Hierarchy:
A distinct social hierarchy emerged, with feudal lords at the top, followed by tenants and peasants.
Endogamy:
In some cases, particularly among the ruling families, marriage practices reinforced social boundaries and the power of specific families.
Historical Context:
Ottoman Rule:
The Ottoman Empire's administration and legal structures influenced the development of feudal relations in Palestine.
Land Registration:
Laws requiring land registration in the 19th century inadvertently created opportunities for lords and officials to acquire land at the expense of peasants.
Transition to Modernity:
As Palestine moved towards modernization and increased interaction with global powers, the feudal system began to break down, but its legacy continued to shape Palestinian society.

Examples:
Deir Ghassaneh:
The story of Omar es-Saleh, whose family were feudal lords of Deir Ghassaneh, illustrates the transition from feudal power to nationalist affiliations.
Barghouti Family:
The Barghouti family, including Omar es-Saleh, provides insights into the lives and experiences of feudal lords and their families in central Palestine.
In conclusion, while not identical to European feudalism, Palestine during the Ottoman period experienced a system of land ownership and social relations that shared characteristics with feudal systems, particularly in the exploitation of peasants and the rise of powerful landowning families.

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